

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 465

By McCormick

A RESOLUTION recognizing Kyle D. Cantrell on his long and impactful career as a radio personality.

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that the members of this body formally recognize those Tennesseans who have woven themselves into the very cultural fabric of this State; and

WHEREAS, Kyle D. Cantrell, longtime radio personality, WSM disc jockey, and voice of the *Grand Ole Opry*, is one such individual who has, for the past thirty years, been the voice introducing quality country and bluegrass music to radio listeners throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, a native of Nashville, Kyle Cantrell was raised on the sounds of *Noontime Neighbors* and *The Grand Ole Opry* radio shows and studied broadcasting and the recording industry at the University of Tennessee and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU); and

WHEREAS, as a student at MTSU, Mr. Cantrell worked at his first job in radio at WMTS during the summer of 1980. He graduated from MTSU in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cantrell first joined WSM Radio in 1982 and, over the years, has produced many shows and features built around country music's rich history and, due to his extensive knowledge of the genre, has often served as an on-camera expert for numerous television shows; and

WHEREAS, as a valued member of the WSM management team, Kyle Cantrell helped to rebuild the station to its former glory and pioneered the station's first classic country format. Since 2003, he has hosted, produced, and syndicated *Classic Country Gold*, which has been broadcast by more than 160 stations throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Kyle Cantrell became the voice of *The Grand Ole Opry* in 1985 and, for seventeen years, rendered sterling service in the role, introducing America's most venerated radio program to the nation each week; and

WHEREAS, it was in 2005 that Mr. Cantrell was named the Program Director and on-air personality for the Bluegrass Junction station at SiriusXM Radio, in which role he has continued entertaining and elucidating fans of country and bluegrass music throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Kyle Cantrell has received numerous professional accolades over the years, including the 2003 Golden Voice Award, the 2008, 2010, and 2012 International Bluegrass Music Association Broadcaster of the Year Award, and the 2013 Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music Association DJ of the Year and Radio Station of the Year awards; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this body formally recognizes Mr. Cantrell, a beacon of excellence and dedication within his profession and a national treasure to fans of the country and bluegrass genres of music; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and commend Kyle D. Cantrell for his many contributions to the broadcasting industry and applaud his tireless efforts to preserve our musical heritage while endeavoring to introduce country and bluegrass music to a wider audience, extending our best wishes for his every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.